

ANNEX A - Report on Implementation of D-23

Department of State

Basic Tasks:

1. Induce the Thai Government to carry out measures to reduce vulnerabilities to communist subversion, and combat communist influence on former opposition leaders (V, 2, b., (3)).

Action: This task is carried out under the guidance of the Ambassador and is followed by US officials in consulting and advising the Thai Government in its military, economic and related programs. The Thai Government is cooperating to the best of its ability.

2. Strengthen and make obligatory educational courses for official personnel (V, 2, b., (7)).

Action: The Foreign Service Institute of State has put forward a proposal including training in Washington and continuing field study. Discussion continues on the best means of operating such a program within the limits of personnel management and budgetary restrictions. There is agreement that there should be preliminary orientation in Washington. However, the consensus is that language and area training should be primarily conducted in the field. The Foreign Service Institute will be requested to consult with training divisions of the other agencies to work out the details.

Special Undertakings:

1. Provide for more IES grants and staff if required, for this and Bi-National Institute (V, 2, c., (1)(a)).

Action: IES grants have been held at the 1953 level by transfers from other resources. Another transfer has provided for three specialists grants for Thai to come to the United States.

2. Assign the best qualified officer for a Thai survey (V, 2, c., (1)(b)).

Action: Mr. Landon, Officer in Charge, Thai and Malayan Affairs, traveled for five weeks in Thailand and conducted the survey required. The substance of his report was utilized by Ambassador Donovan in his recommendations and by the working group in preparing this report.

3. Request if appropriate a new NGRC representative in Bangkok (V, 2, c., (1)(c)).

Action: Embassy Bangkok has been queried and as no reply has been received, a further query is being sent.

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4. Promote regional inter-Asian exchange of persons (V, 2, c., (1)(d)).

Action: This action cannot be carried out because there is currently no enabling legislation. Embassy Bangkok has been instructed to discuss inter-Asian exchanges with Mr. Luther Evans, the new Director General for UNESCO, in the hope that such exchanges might be arranged under UN auspices.

5. (Transferred from USIA) Explore the feasibility and desirability of a Thai-controlled mobile transmitter at or near the Thai-Laos frontier (V, 2, c., (4)(b)).

Action: State will instruct the US Ambassador to explore with the Thai Government, as required. The nature of the request by the Thai Government will determine how the request will be handled by the U.S. Government.

Department of Defense

Basic Tasks:

1. Strengthen and make obligatory educational courses for official personnel (V, 2, b., (7)).

Action: For inter-agency consultation, see State, Basic Tasks 2. The Services are examining their current efforts but see substantial practical difficulties in reprogramming. In the meantime, MAAG Bangkok has arranged with the Thai Ministry of Defense for MAAG personnel to receive from Thai sources a grounding in the history, culture, customs, and problems of Thailand.

2. Encourage the Thai Government to strengthen orientation programs for their military personnel (V, 2, b., (8)).

Action: MAAG and USIS Bangkok are jointly encouraging the Thai Government but as of this date no report from MAAG has been received concerning results obtained.

Special Undertakings:

1. Stage an air show in Bangkok after consultation with Embassy, Bangkok (V, 2, c., (2)(a)).

Action: A show of air strength was conducted on the King's birthday and routine air and naval visits are continuing on an increased scale.

2. Attach to MAAG a suitably qualified psywar officer (V, 2, c., (2)(b)).

Action: The Chief of Staff, US Army has initiated the necessary action to comply.

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3. Effect coordination of military visits with PW agencies (V, 2, c., (2)(c)).

Action: This is accomplished routinely on the initiative of Embassy Bangkok.

Foreign Operations Administration

Basic Tasks:

1. Maintain economic aid and technical assistance program, with emphasis as in V, 2, b., (1).

Action: The regular and supplemental FOA programs for Thailand for FY 1954 have been approved totalling \$5,540,000. The program is in various stages of implementation with emphasis on the northeastern section of the country and on projects which demonstrate US interest in the welfare of the people.

2. Strengthen and make obligatory educational courses for official personnel (V, 2, b., (7)).

Action: FOA has submitted a proposal to the working group and pending inter-agency decisions is continuing its existing arrangements.

Special Undertakings:

1. Continue with a high priority economic programs in support of the objectives of this strategy (V, 2, c., (4)).

Action: This is being done as in 1. above.

Action: Reported in special handling annex.

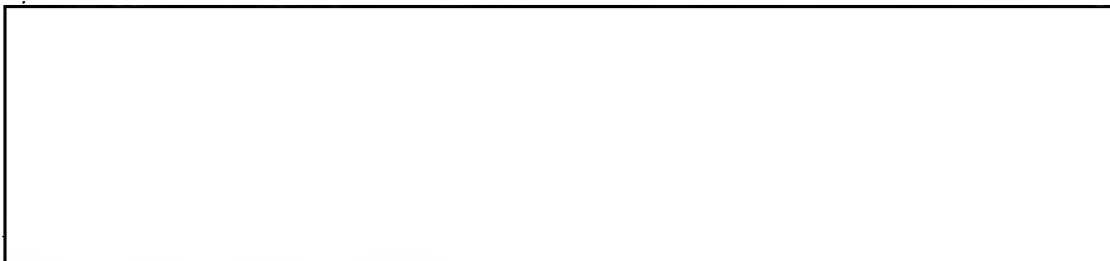
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United States Information Agency

In accordance with PSD D-23, USIA has strengthened its program in Thailand. \$280,000 additional funds have been made available to Thailand and adjacent areas for the remainder of fiscal year 1954. Of this total, \$155,000 will be available for Thailand (\$110,000 is available for Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia and \$15,000 for Burma). The personnel complement for Thailand is being increased from 17 to 30. A new PAO has been assigned to Thailand (Mr. Meader, more recently PAO in Singapore). A qualified Information Officer has been transferred directly from Manila to Bangkok and a Press Officer has been transferred from Tokyo. The program expansion provides for three additional offices (Korat, Ubon, Nong Khai) in Northeast Thailand and increased program activities will emphasize press, publications, and motion pictures. There will be an increased distribution of publications through Buddhist organizations. Motion picture activity will include production of documentaries, newsreels, and shorts. A moderate expansion in radio programming will be supplemented by the distribution of community receiving sets.

Basic Tasks:

1. Develop or expand overt programs, wherever possible in cooperation with local governments, with objectives in V, 2, b., (2).

Action: See introductory paragraph.

2. Stimulate and support overt Thai information activities (V, 2, b., (5)).

Action: See introductory paragraph.

3. Strengthen and make obligatory educational courses for official personnel (V, 2, b., (7)).

Action: For inter-agency consultation, see State, Basic Tasks 2., meanwhile, USIA is continuing its program.

4. Encourage the Thai Government to strengthen suitable information programs for the general public, as in V, 2, b., (8).

Action: USIS, Bangkok is undertaking this task in cooperation with other agencies.

Special Undertakings:

1. Strengthen the existing USIS program in Thailand as in V, 2, c., (4)(a).

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Action: See introductory paragraph.

2. Intensify information activities in northeast Thailand (V, 2, c., (4)(c)).

Action: See introductory paragraph.

3. Continue VOA Thai language broadcasts, unless better use can be made of personnel and organization (V, 2, c., (4)(d)).

Action: VOA Thai language broadcasts are being continued.

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